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CLAIMS

The embodiments of the invention in which an exclusive property or privilege is claimed are defined as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A cover for a hot tub[[,]] or spa, ~~or the like~~ comprising:
a structural, non-water absorbing, plastic core, said core including upper and lower walls spaced from one another and a plurality of spaced ribs extending between said upper and lower walls, said spaced ribs defining a plurality of openings therebetween; and
a water resistant jacket enclosing said core.
2. (Currently amended) The cover of claim 1 wherein said core includes:
two core halves, each half being a single unitary piece; and
a hinge hingedly interconnecting said halves, whereby said ~~spa~~ cover can be folded in half for removal and installation.
3. (Canceled)
4. (Currently amended) The cover of claim 3 1 further comprising an insulated foam within said openings.
5. (Currently amended) The cover of claim 2 wherein each half includes a hinged edge and a peripheral edge, ~~the said upper wall surface of said insert~~ the said upper wall sloping downwardly from said hinged edge to said peripheral edge.
6. (Currently amended) A cover for a hot tub[[,]] or a spa, ~~or the like~~ comprising:

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a polymeric core including an upper wall and a lower wall, said upper wall having a central portion and an outer edge, said upper wall sloping downwardly from said central portion to said outer edge, said core further including a plurality of ribs extending between said upper and lower walls; and

a water resistant jacket enclosing said core.

7. (Original) The cover of claim 6 wherein said cover is hinged in said central portion, whereby said cover can be folded approximately in half.

8. (Original) The cover of claim 7 further comprising an insulating material between said ribs.